

The Circuit Writer



NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Northern New Jersey Conference, The United Methodist Church

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METHODISM IN NEW JERSEY: A BRIEF BIBLIOGRAPHY

by Kenneth E. Rowe, Drew University

This bibliography attempts to identify the principal printed sources available for the study of Methodism in New Jersey from the colonial period to the present. The compiler has in mind students, historians, pastors and local church Committees on Records and History, who, according to the 1976 BOOK OF DISCIPLINE of the UMC, "shall be responsible for preparing, where it does not exist, a history of the local church or churches from the time of organization." (Par. 261.6)

No attempt is made to list published histories of Methodism in towns and cities across the state. Rather the aim is to provide resources for setting each local church's history in the wider context of the several annual conferences and the state as a whole.

Copies of each item are available in the Drew University Library in Madison.

I: GENERAL HISTORIES OF NEW JERSEY METHODISM

Asbury, Francis, JOURNAL AND LETTERS, edited by Elmer T. Clark. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1958. 3 vols. Check indexes for references of our first Bishop's numerous visits to New Jersey.

Atkinson, John, MEMORIALS OF METHODISM IN NEW JERSEY FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE FIRST SOCIETY IN THE STATE IN 1770, TO THE COMPLETION OF THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS OF ITS HISTORY, CONTAINING SKETCHES OF THE MINISTERIAL LABORERS, DISTINGUISHED LAYMEN, AND PROMINENT SOCIETIES OF THAT PERIOD. Philadelphia: Perkinpine and Higgins, 1860. 435p.

Crowther, Robert William, METHODIST CAMP MEETINGS IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY (Princeton, N.J.): 1959 (Thesis, Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary) 109p.

Hampton, Vernon Boyce, FRANCIS ASBURY IN NEW JERSEY, 1771-1815. (Staten Island, N.Y.): 1971 2p.

-----NEW JERSEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM ASBURY'S JOURNAL: COMMENTS OF CONCERN, DISCERNMENT AND PROPHECY. (Staten Island, N.Y.: 1966) 12p.

-----SOME METHODIST LANDMARKS ASSOCIATED WITH FRANCIS ASBURY IN THE NEWARK CONFERENCE AREA. (Staten Island, N.J.: 1962) 2p.

Hanzsche, William Thomson, "The History of the Churches in New Jersey", in William Starr Myers, editor, THE STORY OF NEW JERSEY, New York: Lewis Historical Publication Company, 1945, Vol. II, p. 230-350.

Jamison, Wallace N., RELIGION IN NEW JERSEY: A BRIEF HISTORY, Princeton, N.J.: Van Nostrand, 1964. (New Jersey Historical Series, Vol. 13) 183p. A highly readable overview of religion in New Jersey, 1620-1963. The arrangement is chronological, with generous attention given to the Methodists. Essential for setting New Jersey Methodism in the light of the broader religious history of the state.

New Jersey Methodist State Convention, Trenton, 1870. MINUTES OF THE NEW JERSEY METHODIST STATE CONVENTION, HELD IN TRENTON, N.J., SEPT.27-29, 1870. Trenton: W.T. Nicholson, 1870. 157p.

Perry, William E., ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING ASSOCIATION. (Bridgeton, N.J.): Barclay and Chessman, printers (1874) 15 p.

Raybold, George A., ANNALS OF METHODISM, OR, SKETCHES OF THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF METHODISM IN VARIOUS PORTIONS OF WEST JERSEY, DERIVED FROM THE MOST AUTHENTIC SOURCES. First series. Philadelphia: T. Stokes, 1847. 142p.

-----REMINISCENCES OF METHODISM IN WEST JERSEY. New York: Lane and Scott, 1849. 202p.

Shippey, Frederick A. ETHNIC GROUPS AND THE METHODIST CHURCH IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN TERRITORY, CONNECTICUT, NEW JERSEY AND NEW YORK: A STUDY OF CHURCHES IN 22 COUNTIES, 1940-1967. Madison, N.J.: Drew University Press, 1967, 161p.

II. CONFERENCE HISTORIES

(Works are entered under the name of the church body at the time of publication)

African Methodist Episcopal Church Conferences, New Jersey

Morgan, Joseph H. MORGAN'S HISTORY OF THE NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE OF THE A.M.E. CHURCH FROM 1872 TO 1887 AND OF THE SEVERAL CHURCHES AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, FROM DATE OF ORGANIZATION WITH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE. Camden, N.J.: S. Chew, 1887. 254p.

THE NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHES 1872-1972. Newark, N.J.: 1972. 80p.

Evangelical Church. Conferences. Atlantic

Historical Records Survey. New Jersey. INVENTORY OF THE CHURCH ARCHIVES OF NEW JERSEY EVANGELICAL CHURCH. Newark, N.J.: Historical Records Survey, 1941. 37p.

Methodist Church (U.S.) Conferences. New Jersey

Methodist Church (U.S.). Conferences. New Jersey. THE METHODIST TRAIL IN NEW JERSEY: 125 YEARS OF METHODISM IN THE NEW JERSEY ANNUAL CONFERENCE. 1836-1931. Edited by Frank Batemen Stanger. (n.p.) New Jersey Annual Conference of the Methodist Church, 1961. 295p.

Methodist Church (U.S.) Conferences. Newark

Methodist Church (U.S.) Conferences. Newark. Historical Society. NEWARK CONFERENCE CENTENNIAL HISTORY, 1857-1957: A HUNDRED YEARS OF METHODISM. Editor, Vernon Boyce Hampton (Newark?1957) 586p.

Methodist Episcopal Church. Conferences. New Jersey

Methodist Episcopal Church. Conferences. New Jersey. THE NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE MEMORIAL, CONTAINING BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF ALL ITS DECEASED MEMBERS, INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN THE NEWARK CONFERENCE. Philadelphia: Perkinpine & Higgins. 1865. 512p. Mostly biographical, but with a large amount of general history; based upon published minutes, periodical literature, letters, and personal inquiries.

Methodist Protestant Church. Conferences. New Jersey

Bassett, Ancel H. A CONCISE HISTORY OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH FROM ITS ORIGIN. Pittsburgh: C.S. Scott, 1877. 355p. The Methodist Protestant Church, which gained some strength in the state, originated because of dissatisfaction with "Autocratic" episcopal control. Its early history is related fully in Bassett with references to the schism of 1828 in New Jersey, biographies, and attention to three national leaders who came originally from New Jersey.

III: PERIODICALS

CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE (NEW YORK), New York, Vol. 1-131, 1826-1956. The Principal area Methodist weekly with much N.J. News. Check indexes for your church's anniversary years, dates of building dedications, and other special observances.

CIRCUIT WRITER, Madison, No. 1. 1973+ Twice yearly newsletter of the Commission on Archives and History, Northern New Jersey Conference, United Methodist Church.

EPWORTH ADVOCATE: see NEW JERSEY METHODIST AND EPWORTH ADVOCATE.

HISTORICAL TRAIL, Cherry Hill, No. 1, 1962+ Annual publication of the Commission on Archives and History of the Southern New Jersey Annual Conference, United Methodist Church. Index to Nos. 1-10, 1962-1972 in 10, 1972.

HORIZON, FROM THE UNITED METHODIST HOMES OF NEW JERSEY., Ocean Grove, Vol. 1-, 1951+ (1951-1968 as Methodist Homes of N.J. Quarterly; 1968-1977 as United Methodist Homes of N.J. Quarterly)

METHODIST HOMES OF N.J. QUARTERLY: See HORIZON

METHODIST RELAY: See UNITED METHODIST RELAY

NEW JERSEY METHODIST: See NEW JERSEY METHODIST AND EPWORTH ADVOCATE.

NEW JERSEY METHODIST AND EPWORTH ADVOCATE. Ocean City, Camden, Vol. 1-?, 1879-? (Vol. 1-? as NEW JERSEY METHODIST)

NORTHEASTERN METHODIST HISTORICAL BULLETIN. Apollo, Pa. etc., Vol. 1, 1965+

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY UNITED METHODIST ANNUAL CONFERENCE DAILY EDITION.

Madison, vol. 1, 1976+

OCEAN GROVE RECORD: see RECORD.

OCEAN GROVE TIMES AND OCEAN GROVE RECORD: see RECORD

OSTENS MISSIONAER. Jersey City, 1917?-1921//(Merged with KRISTELIGE TALSMAND AND VIDNESHYDRET to form EVANGELISK TIDENDE)

PHILADELPHIA AND OCEAN GROVE RECORD: see RECORD.

RECORD, Ocean Grove, Vol. 1-? 1878?-1915? (Title varies: PHILADELPHIA AND OCEAN GROVE RECORD, OCEAN GROVE RECORD, OCEAN GROVE TIMES AND OCEAN GROVE RECORD, OCEAN GROVE TIMES, TIMES RECORD)

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER: see WESLEYAN REPOSITORY.

SECOND WIND, Newsletter of the Retired Minister's Association of the Northern New Jersey Annual Conference. Stony Point, N.Y.?, Vol. 1, 1974+

TIMES RECORD: see RECORD

TOGETHER AREA NEWS SUPPLEMENT. (New Jersey) Nashville, Vol. 1-14, 1956-1970.//

UNITED METHODIST HOMES OF N.J. QUARTERLY: see HORIZON

UNITED METHODIST RELAY, Cherry Hill, Vol. 1, 1956+ (1956-1968 as METHODIST RELAY)

WESLEYAN REPOSITORY, Trenton, Philadelphia, Vol. 1-3, 1821-1824//, 1821-1822 as WESLEYAN REPOSITORY AND RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER)

WESLEYAN REPOSITORY AND RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER: See Wesleyan Repository.

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LOCAL CHURCH HISTORY CONTEST - Awards to be presented during 1978 Conference.

Six local churches--Bayonne, Frankford Plains, Morristown, Springfield, Union and Walnut Valley--have submitted histories of their churches published during the calendar year 1977 for our fifth annual LOCAL CHURCH HISTORY RECOGNITION CONTEST. Two awards will be presented during the 1978 meeting of the conference in June.

COMMISSION TO PUBLISH HISTORICAL BOOKLET

The stories of two celebrated ministers in the former Newark Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church have been compiled by Dr. Henry Lyle Lambdin, Emeritus Professor of Homiletics at Drew University. Copies of the 82 page booklet entitled THE CIVIL WAR DIARIES OF JAMES B. FAULKS AND THE PERSONAL DIARIES OF JOHN S. COIT, will be distributed in June when conference gathers at Drew University. This is the first in what we hope will be a continuing series of historical publications of the Commission.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PLANS ANNUAL DINNER MEETING - Tuesday, May 16, 1978 at Madison

The Annual dinner meeting of the Conference Historical Society will be held Tuesday, May 16, 1978 in the United Methodist Church in Madison, N.J. Following dinner at 7:00 P.M., Dr. Henry Lambdin will speak on the theme "A Unique Chapter from Old Halsey Street." Reservations at \$5.25 per person may be made, until May 10, through: The Rev. Paul E. Spiecker
425 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, N.J. 07506

(Please make check payable to Paul E. Spiecker, chairman)

LOCAL CHURCH RECORDS PROJECT

In order to encourage the gathering and preservation of local church records the Conference Commission is launching a microfilming project for local churches. Expenses would be shared equally between the local church and the Conference Commission. Microfilming would be done at cost by Drew University Library.

Each local church is encouraged to form a Records and History Committee and to begin to gather together from attics and basements, closets and trunks, all available official records (membership, baptisms, marriages, burials, etc.) along with minutes of the most important boards and committees (Administrative Boards, Trustees, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, Youth Fellowships and their predecessor groups).

A master microfilm file would be maintained in the Conference Archives at Drew. Physical copies may be returned to the local church or be placed on deposit with the Conference Archives as desired. Contact President Spiecker for details.

TRAVELING EXHIBIT ON BISHOP FRANCIS ASBURY

A small exhibit of Asbury memorabilia from the collection of Drew University is available on request for use at special celebrations in local churches. The exhibit includes several mounted prints and photographs, a set of ordination certificates signed by our first Bishop, along with a pair of spectacles he wore. When used with historical items from a local congregation, this makes an attractive addition to an anniversary or other historical observation. Contact Dr. Kenneth E. Rowe, Drew University Library, Madison, N. J. 07940, 377-3000, Ext. 470.

CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE:

BAYONNE
& its
Bees!

Wesley Church, the second oldest religious society in Bayonne, recently celebrated their heritage on the occasion of its 147th anniversary with a special worship service at which Bishop C. Dale White was the guest preacher. In the 1830's, when Bayonne was a Dutch farming area known as "Bergen Neck", a group of Methodists newly arrived from England built a small meeting house. Bees outnumbered parishioners at first, having built a nest in under the church's eaves. "From the bees," explained the Rev. Wayne Plumstead, pastor, "came the name by which the church was first known: 'The Little Beehive.'" Money from the sale of honey produced by the Methodist bees helped keep the doors of the struggling church open!

FAIRFIELD

Fairfield United Methodist Church, the former Clinton M.E. Church, observed its 125th Anniversary on 4 Dec., 1977. The Reverend Burke White was the preacher for the occasion. Burke was pastor of the Clinton Church and Pine Brook Circuit in 1927-29. He celebrated 50 years in the ministry on palm Sunday, 1977. The current record book of the church, started 24 Jan 1965, has an historical note saying that the first mention of the Clinton Methodist Church is found in an old quarterly conference record book for 1852-187. In 1952, the church sold memorial plates giving the dates 1852-1952 for the church. Lynn G. Lockwood, A Puritan Heritage (1955) says the Methodist Church in Clinton was formed in 1822, taking several members from the Caldwell Presbyterian Church.

--Henry O. Thompson.

**HARMONY HILL
(Stillwater)**

A recent day of celebration found the members and friends of Harmony Hill Church rejoicing for a number of reasons. The congregation was led by Bishop White in observing the 175th anniversary of the church. During the worship service members of long standing were honored, with the record holder being Mrs. Olive Cummins, who joined the church in 1903. Members also celebrated the church's election to the National Register of Historic Places. The church edifice, built of stone, was completed in 1832. Both the parsonage, built in 1841, and the cemetery are included in the historic designation.

UNION

During October the Union church celebrated its 50th anniversary. On October 9 a Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication was held with Bishop White preaching. A dinner-dance was held and a Homecoming Service on October 16 with Pastor Roberts preaching, assisted by the Rev. Alden Smith, pastor from 1941-1946. Greetings were read from Bishop John Wesley Lord who served as pastor from 1931-1934. A commemorative booklet was distributed on the occasion.

OTHERS?

CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE is a regular column in our newsletter. Won't you share your plans or report on historic celebrations in your church? Please contact the editor and give us your story!

ORDER NEW RESOURCES !
FROM YOUR
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

| | PRICE INCLUDING POSTAGE | NUMBER ORDERED |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| GUIDELINES FOR LOCAL CHURCH HISTORIANS AND RECORDS AND HISTORY COMMITTEES compiled by Dr. Walter N. Vernon A new 40-page manual for Local Churches. Indispensable! | \$.75 | _____ |
| SERVICES AND RESOURCES FOR WORSHIP ON HISTORIC OCCASIONS compiled by The Rev. Dr. Kenneth E. Rowe. Important resource for planning historical services | \$ 1.00 | _____ |
| A SHORT HISTORY OF THE METHODISTS , by Jesse Lee. A facsimile reprint of the First edition of the first history of Methodism in America. Originally published in Baltimore, Md. in 1810 | \$ 6.95 | _____ |
| BRONZE GRAVE MARKERS FOR UNITED METHODIST MINISTERS A limited supply of Official Markers for the graves of United Methodist Ministers are available. The bronze markers, which contain a raised figure of a mounted Circuit Rider and the inscription "United Methodist Minister", may be bolted to the head stone or may be implanted in the ground. (Bolts ARE NOT included) | \$16.00 | _____ |
| HOW TO WRITE AND PUBLISH THE HISTORY OF A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH by Wallace Guy Smelzer A helpful 15-page pamphlet | ONE COPY for each church FREE! | _____ |

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Send order form with payment in full to:

The Rev. Paul E. Spiecker
452 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Please make all checks or money orders payable to Paul E. Spiecker
NOT the Commission on Archives and History

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